

From: Andy Howe
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 2:12pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I just wanted to send a quick note to share my views on the proposed Microsoft settlement.

I believe that the settlement is fair to the consumers. They will have more choice in how their operating systems are configured, and the OEMs will be on equal footing when it comes to getting the best prices on Windows licenses from Microsoft.

It is my belief that the remaining states are simply opposing the deal because a) they want to drag this out and continue to try to put Microsoft in a bad light, and b) they want to help Microsoft's competitors. As I understand them, the antitrust laws are not here to protect your competitors, they are here to protect the consumers. Most consumers do not care if Microsoft has 8 different versions of Windows, they just want one, and they want it to have a lot of good features in it. The settlement will ensure that there will be more versions available for those who do care.

It is time to end this case and let the high tech industry get back to business. I implore you to accept this settlement for the good of the consumers as well as the good of the high tech industry.

Thank you,
Andy Howe

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